

AC – 20/05/2025
Item No. – 5.50 (N) Sem-IV 2(f)

As Per NEP 2020

University of Mumbai



Syllabus for Basket of OE Vertical 3

Faculty of Humanities

Board of Studies in English

Second Year Programme (English)

Semester

IV

Title of Paper

Credits

II) Short Science Fiction

2

From the Academic Year

2025-26

Title of Paper: Short Science Fiction

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	Description of the course:	Science and literature, though often viewed as distinct fields, are deeply interconnected- both rooted in curiosity. While science is driven by experimentation and discovery, literature emerges from imagination and speculation. Both seek to explore causes, effects, and the nature of reality, making their relationship indissoluble. This course introduces Science Fiction as a genre that mirrors societal transformations, evokes wonder, and fosters dialogue between literature and science. Designed for non-literature students, it aims to spark curiosity, offering insights into the evolving relationship between scientific advancements and storytelling.
2	Vertical:	Open Elective
3	Type:	Theory
4	Credit:	2 credits (1 credit = 15 Hours for Theory in a semester)
5	Hours Allotted:	30 Hours
6	Marks Allotted:	50 Marks
7	Course Objectives: 1. To examine the relationship between literature and science, emphasizing their shared foundations in curiosity, inquiry, and exploration. 2. To introduce students to Science Fiction as a literary genre, familiarizing them with its key elements, themes, and narrative techniques. 3. To encourage critical reflection on the ethical, social, and technological implications of scientific advancements as explored in Science Fiction texts.	

8	Course Outcomes: Learners will be able to: 1. Analyze the interplay between science and literature, recognizing its relevance in contemporary academic and cultural discourse. 2. Identify and interpret the defining characteristics, themes, and narrative techniques of Science Fiction as a literary genre. 3. Critically evaluate Science Fiction texts in relation to their socio-political, ethical, and technological contexts and engage with contemporary debates on scientific progress, utopian and dystopian visions, and the future of humanity.								
9.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="207 594 1052 674">Module 1: Ethics, Environment & the Human Condition</td><td data-bbox="1052 594 1539 674">(15 Lectures)</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="207 674 1539 894"> 1. Ursula K. Le Guin: "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" 2. Subodh Jawdekar: "A Journey into Darkness" 3. Arthur C. Clarke: "The Nine Billion Names of God" 4. Manjula Padmanabhan: "The Pain Merchant" </td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="207 894 1052 974">Module 2: Cyberspace, Cosmos, and Time</td><td data-bbox="1052 894 1539 974">(15 Lectures)</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="207 974 1539 1188"> 1. William Gibson: "Burning Chrome" 2. Isaac Asimov: "The Last Question" 3. Ray Bradbury: "A Sound of Thunder" 4. Philip K. Dick: "Colony" </td></tr> </table>	Module 1: Ethics, Environment & the Human Condition	(15 Lectures)	1. Ursula K. Le Guin: "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" 2. Subodh Jawdekar: "A Journey into Darkness" 3. Arthur C. Clarke: "The Nine Billion Names of God" 4. Manjula Padmanabhan: "The Pain Merchant"		Module 2: Cyberspace, Cosmos, and Time	(15 Lectures)	1. William Gibson: "Burning Chrome" 2. Isaac Asimov: "The Last Question" 3. Ray Bradbury: "A Sound of Thunder" 4. Philip K. Dick: "Colony"	
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10	Text Books: NA								
11	Reference Books: 1. Asimov, Isaac. <i>Robot Visions</i>. Roc, 1990. (Includes "The Last Question") 2. Bradbury, Ray Douglas. <i>The Stories of Ray Bradbury</i>. Alfred A. Knopf, 1980. (Includes "A Sound of Thunder") 3. Clarke, Arthur C. <i>The Collected Stories of Arthur C. Clarke</i>. Tor Books, 2001. (Includes "The Nine Billion Names of God") 4. Dick, Philip K. <i>The Collected Stories of Philip K. Dick, Vol. 2: We Can Remember It for You Wholesale</i>. Citadel Press, 1990. (Includes "Colony") 5. Gibson, William. <i>Burning Chrome</i>. Ace Books, 1986. (Includes "Burning Chrome") 6. Le Guin, Ursula Kroeber. <i>The Wind's Twelve Quarters</i>. Harper & Row, 1975. (Includes "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas") 7. Padmanabhan, Manjula. <i>Unprincess</i>. Scholastic India, 2005. (Includes "The Pain Merchant") 8. Phondke, Bal, editor. <i>It Happened Tomorrow</i>. National Book Trust, 1993. (Includes Subodh Jawdekar's "A Journey into Darkness") Bhelkar, Ratnakar. <i>Science Fiction: Fantasy and Reality</i>. Atlantic Publication, New Delhi, 2009.								

	9. Easton, Thomas A., and Judith K. Dial, editors. <i>Vision of Tomorrow: Science Fiction Predictions that Came True</i> . A Herman Graf Book, Skyhouse Publishing, Canada, 2010. 10. Roberts, Adam. <i>Science Fiction</i> . Routledge, London, 2000.	
12	Internal Continuous Assessment: 40%	External, Semester End Examination: 60%
	Individual Passing in Internal and External Examination: 40%	
13	Continuous Evaluation through: • Attendance and Classroom Participation: 05 Marks • Oral Presentation/ Group Discussion: 05 Marks • Class Test / Written Assignment: 10 Marks Suggested assignments: Quizzes, a book review, a Sci-Fi movie/ web series review, a presentation, creative writing, etc.	
14	Format of Question Paper: for the Semester End Examination (Total Marks 30) Q.1. Short Notes (2 out of 4) on Module 1 and 2 10 Marks (150 to 200 words) Q. 2. Essay Type (1 out of 2) on Module 1 10 Marks (500 to 600 words) Q. 3. Essay Type (1 out of 2) on Module 2 10 Marks (500 to 600 words)	

Sd/-

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 Chairperson
 Dr. Sachin Labade
 Board of Studies in
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